MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : About 80 to 90 per cent. of the local production is consumed in Travancore itself. So there is no necessity for encouraging consumption of paddy locally produced.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : What about the remaining percentage?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : Every person has a right to export his own commodities.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : Have the Government considered that the whole of the paddy required for consumption in Travancore should be produced in Travancore itself?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : No necessity has arisen for the Government to consider that question.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : From the answer to part (*d*) it is seen that paddy is imported into Travancore.

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes, in large quantities.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : Have the Government enquired why paddy is exported from Travancore when it is necessary to import paddy into the State?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : That question has not come to the Government for enquiry.

Objections re rules for the constitution and working of irrigation boards.

21. MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Agastisvaram*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they received objections or suggestions regarding the revised rules relating to the constitution and working of the irrigation boards under the Kodayar Project ;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the names of the persons from whom the objections or suggestions came ;

(*c*) the gist of those objections ; and,

(*d*) the action taken by them thereon?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) Suggestions have been received from the member himself.

(*c*) The suggestions made are that the age qualification for a Block Board elector under rule 6 of the draft rules may be reduced from 21 years to 18 years, that there may be 6 meetings of the Central Board instead of 4, as provided for in rule 15 (i), and that the rate of fees that a Block Board may levy, may be fixed at half a rupee instead of one rupee as laid down in rule 21.

(*d*) The suggestions are under the consideration of the Government.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Agastisvaram*) : May I know the date on which they received the objections relating to the Irrigation Board?

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MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member himself knows it.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Agastisvaram*): Sir, how can it be an answer to my question?

PRESIDENT: All right Mr. Nadar, that question can be answered.

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That date is not available here.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Agastisvaram*): The Chief Secretary knows it, Sir.

Statement, by caste, of District Registrars.

22. **MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR** (*Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste, of the District Registrars?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Nayars ... 2
Vellala ... 1

Recruitment of Muslims as Provertikars and Pakuthi Accountants.

23. **MR. P. S. MAHOMED** (*Nominated*): (1) Are the Government aware:

(*a*) that the communities that are poorly represented in the Land Revenue Department cannot find a place in the list of acting Accountants or Provertikars;

(*b*) that the Muslims are unrepresented in the Department as Accountants or Provertikars; and

(*c*) that none of the Muslims can aspire to a post as Accountant or Provertikar if the list of acting hands in the *pakuthies* is strictly followed?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have issued any instructions to the officers having powers of appointment that the said list, if any, should not be followed to the detriment of backward communities; and

(*b*) if it is not done, in what way the Government have attempted to remove the disabilities of Muslims and other unrepresented communities in the Department?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (1) (*a*) Duly qualified members of unrepresented communities are being recruited as Accountants and the names of such men, when once appointed, are included in the list of acting hands. But promotions of Accountants as Provertikars are made according to seniority and not on considerations of communal representation.

(*b*) No. They are represented.

(*c*) This does not arise in view of the answers to parts (*a*) and (*b*).

(2) (*a*) No. Initial appointments are made on the basis of communal representation. But promotions are made according to seniority.

(*b*) Members of unrepresented communities are being appointed in the Revenue Department and they are given due promotions according to seniority.

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